

SPIDER-MAN<sup>®</sup>

MARVEL<sup>®</sup> COMICS GROUP



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# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN<sup>®</sup>

BOMBS FROM HIS  
FINGERTIPS--  
BURSTING ALL  
AROUND ME--!

FACE IT, WEBHEAD--  
YOU AIN'T GOT A  
CHANCE AGAINST THE  
**ROCKET-RACER!**



BUT EVEN IF SPIDEY CAN DEFEAT THIS  
SKATE-BOARDING PSYCHOPATH, HE  
STILL MUST FACE --  
**THE FIEND FROM THE FIRE!**



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ROSS ANDRU  
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FRANK GIACIOIA  
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GLYNIS WEIN  
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JOHN COSTANZA  
 LETTERER



**APOLASIA: WE TRIED TO WAIT, MARVELITE-- HONEST WE DID-- BUT THINGS BEGAN HAPPENING SO FAST AND SO FURIOUSLY, WE JUST HAD TO START WITHOUT YOU!**

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**OUTTA MY WAY, SUCKER!**

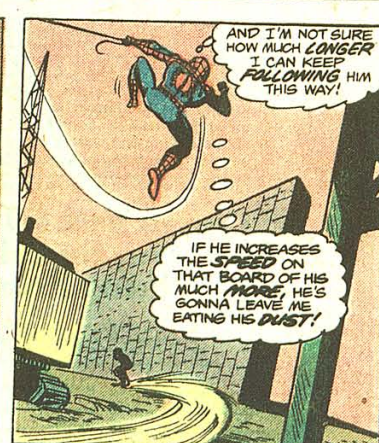
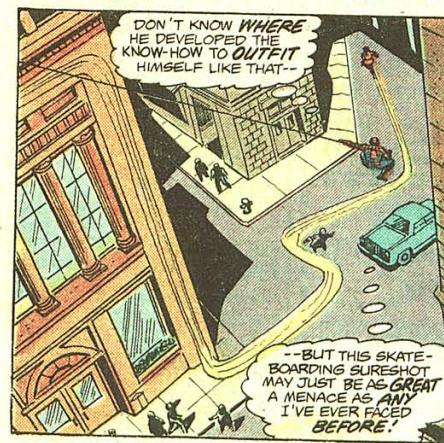
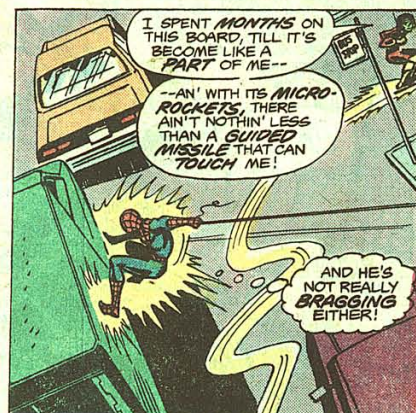
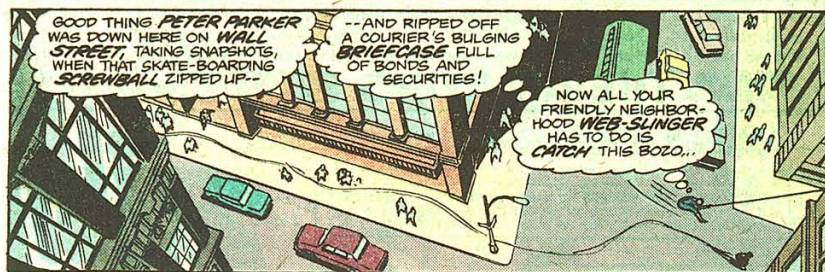
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**AND EVEN IF SPIDEY CAN DEFEAT THIS SKATE-BOARDING PSYCHOPATH, HE STILL HAS TO FACE...**

**The FIEND FROM THE FIRE!**

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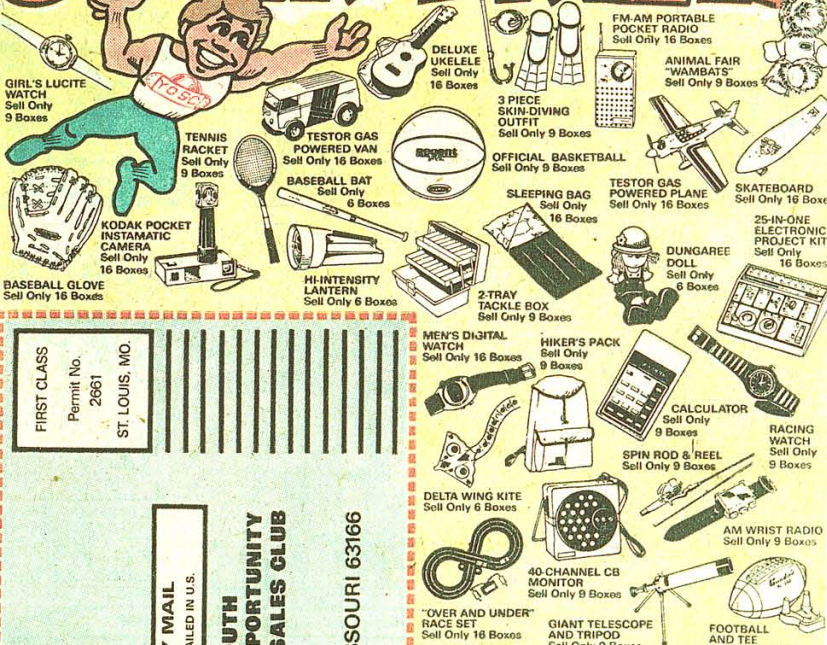
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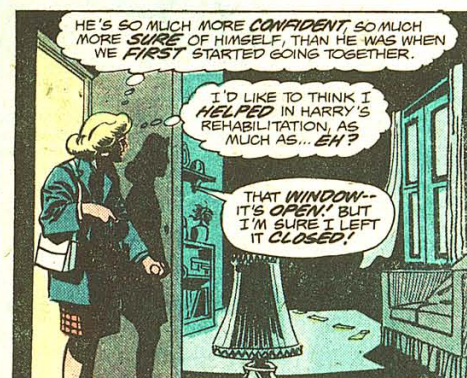
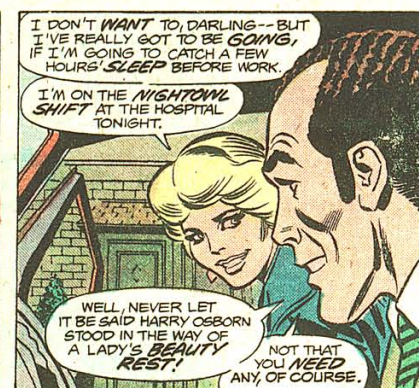
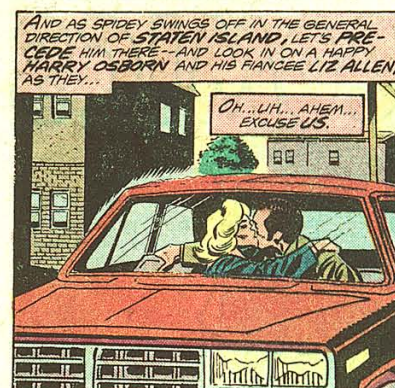
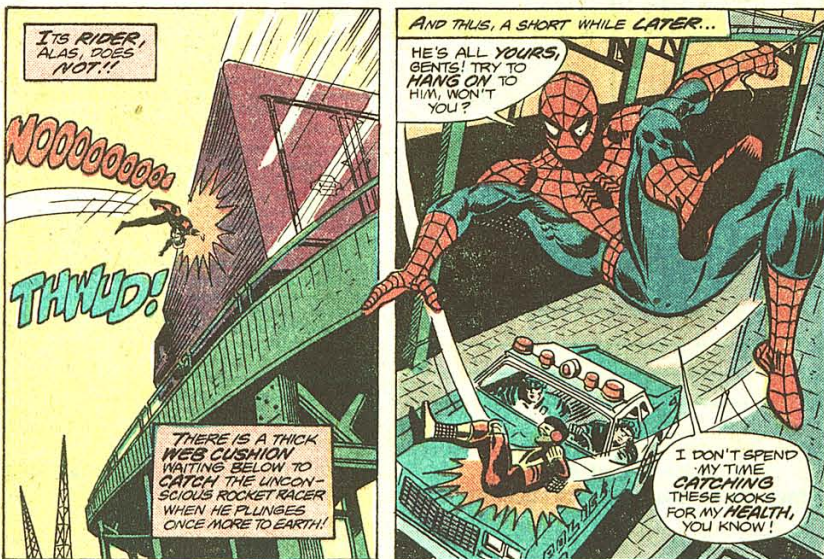
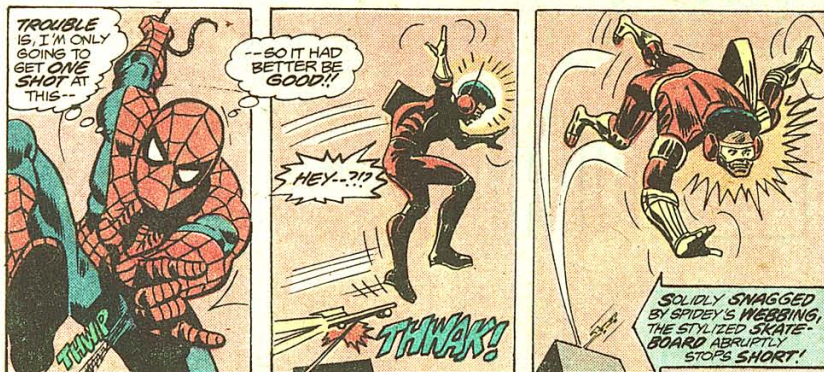
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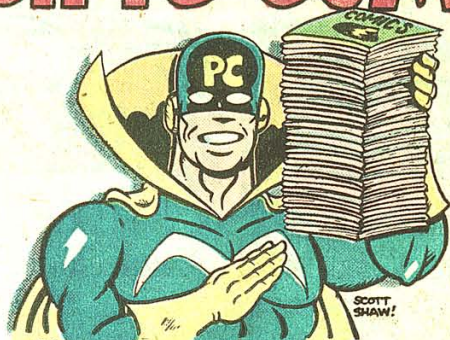
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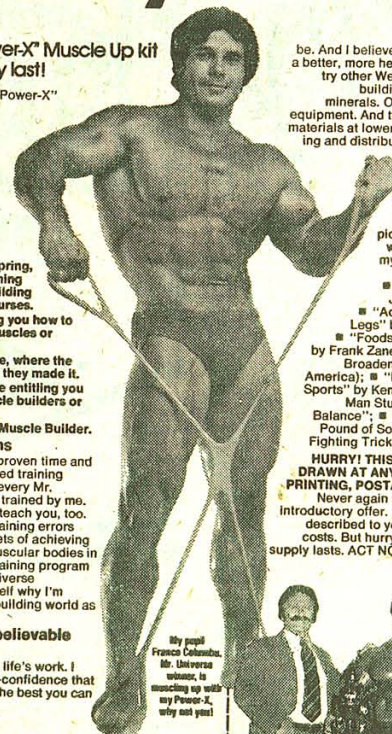
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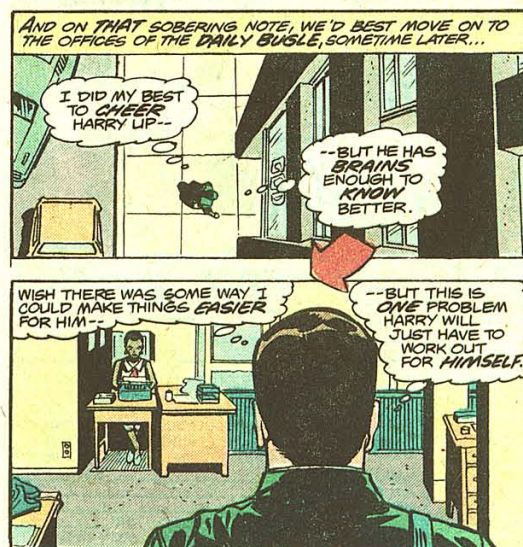
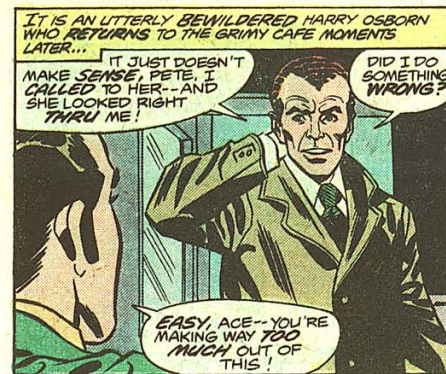
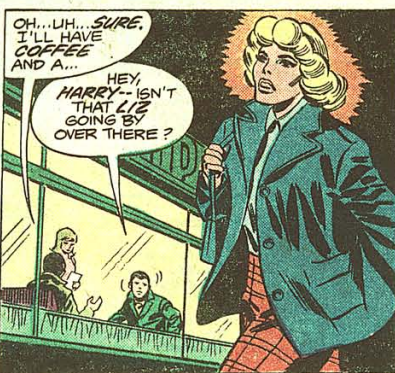
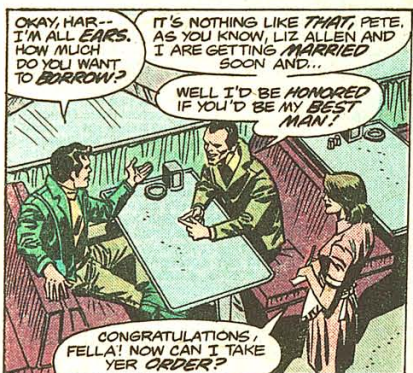
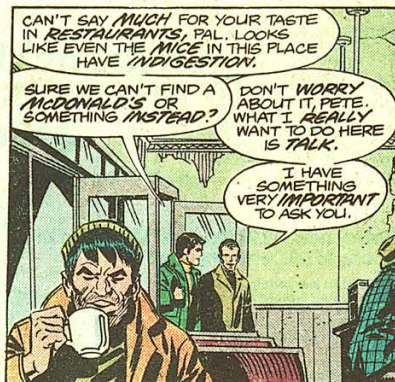
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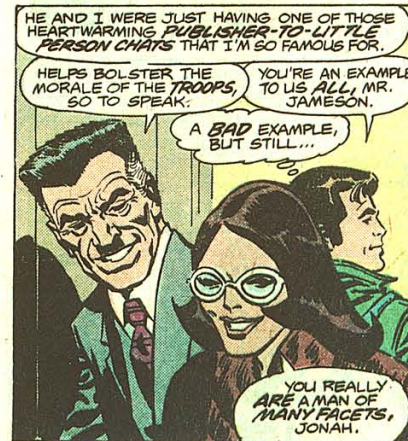
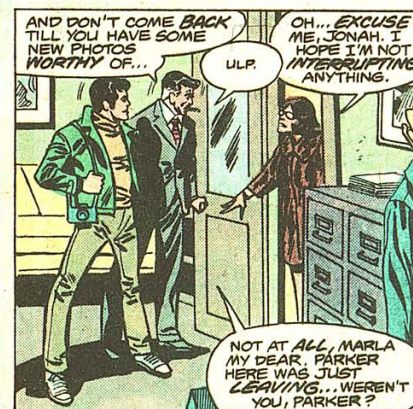
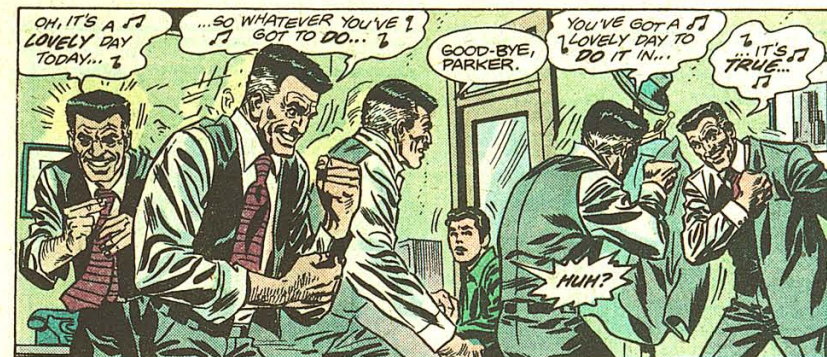
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## THE SPIDER'S WEB

Whew! Rarely has the premiere appearance of a new Marvel super-star elicited the sort of reaction given the coming of the **WILL-O'-THE-WISP**! So, to squeeze in as many of your comments as possible, we're going to dispense with our editorial asides this month, and let you do all the talking. See you at the bottom of the page.

The Will-O'-The-Wisp was an excellent character; I hope you can bring him back sometime soon.

Sam Hays  
109B Chapman Hall, Adelphi University  
Garden City, NY 11530

Will-O'-The-Wisp was a fascinating character and I'm sorry you had to kill him off. He would have made an interesting comrade for Spidey.

Rob Duda  
45 Franklin Ave.  
Hawthorne, NJ 07506

Will-O'-The-Wisp is one of the more memorable of Spidey's antagonists, with a sufficiently bizarre appearance and interesting enough powers to make their fight an enjoyable one.

Al Schroeder III  
2207 Old Hickory Blvd.  
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I demand, I insist, I implore you—bring back Will-O'-The-Wisp! I never has a new character made such an impression on me. If you don't bring him back, I'll never forgive you.

Loretta King  
4900 Manor Rd. #102  
Austin, TX 78723

SPIDER-MAN #168 was super-great! But why did you kill off Will-O'-The-Wisp? I think he would have made a great super-hero.

Timmy Smith  
26110 Nagel  
Roseville, MI 48066

SPIDER-MAN #168 was the best I've seen for some time. Thanks for making me glad I renewed my subscription.

Doug Craig  
(no address given)

Say it isn't so, Len! Say that Will-O'-The-Wisp isn't dead! Wisp is about the most mysterious, most enigmatic hero-villain to come along in...in...well, I don't know when.

Please bring him back...soon! And when you do, please, don't reveal too much about his past. I like him as he is!

Janice Henry  
Show Low, AZ 85901

SPIDER-MAN #168 was terrific. The Will-O'-The-Wisp was fantastic! He showed potential for becoming a real super-hero. So why did you have to kill him in the end?

David Elliott  
146-35 183rd St.  
Springfield Gardens, NY 11413

My apologies for writing so late, but the supply of Marvels here is a bit erratic. SPIDER-MAN #168 was great. Will-O'-The-Wisp's tragic end was really quite moving.

Sridhar Prayaga  
Box 3, Vikas Soc., Memnagar  
Ahmedabad 380052, India

That Jonas Harrow just keeps turning up, like the proverbial bad penny, doesn't he? Now he's behind the birth (and death? I doubt it!) of Will-O'-The-Wisp. Though there were a few parallels to the creation of the Vision by Ultron, the duo of Harrow and Wisp was most enjoyable.

Lou Fettes  
RR #1  
Plainfield, IN 46068

And on and on and on it went, each letter more uplifting than the last, and you know we couldn't be more pleased. Suffice it to say, Marveldom Assembled hasn't seen the last of Will-O'-The-Wisp. Even as we speak, Lively Len Wein is putting the finishing touches on some brand new plans for our wispy wonder, so you can be certain he'll be coming your way again soon when you least expect it.

We have another point or two to cover before we close for this month. Firstly, for those of you who caught Lively Len's "locked window" boo-boo in SPIDER-MAN #168 (and there were many of you, the Lively One admits, his head bowed in shame), please consider yourselves collectively apologized.

Secondly, to those of you who wrote in claiming a no-prize for Len's seeming blunder in calling Peter Parker "Brown-eyes", better luck next time. Peter Parker's eyes are indeed brown, always have been, and it was those previous issues you cited as your sources that were in error, not us.

Let's see now, that makes the score True Believers: 1, Bullpen: 1. Why don't you make it a point to be here next time just to see how the game turns out? You know how upset we get when we have to start alone.

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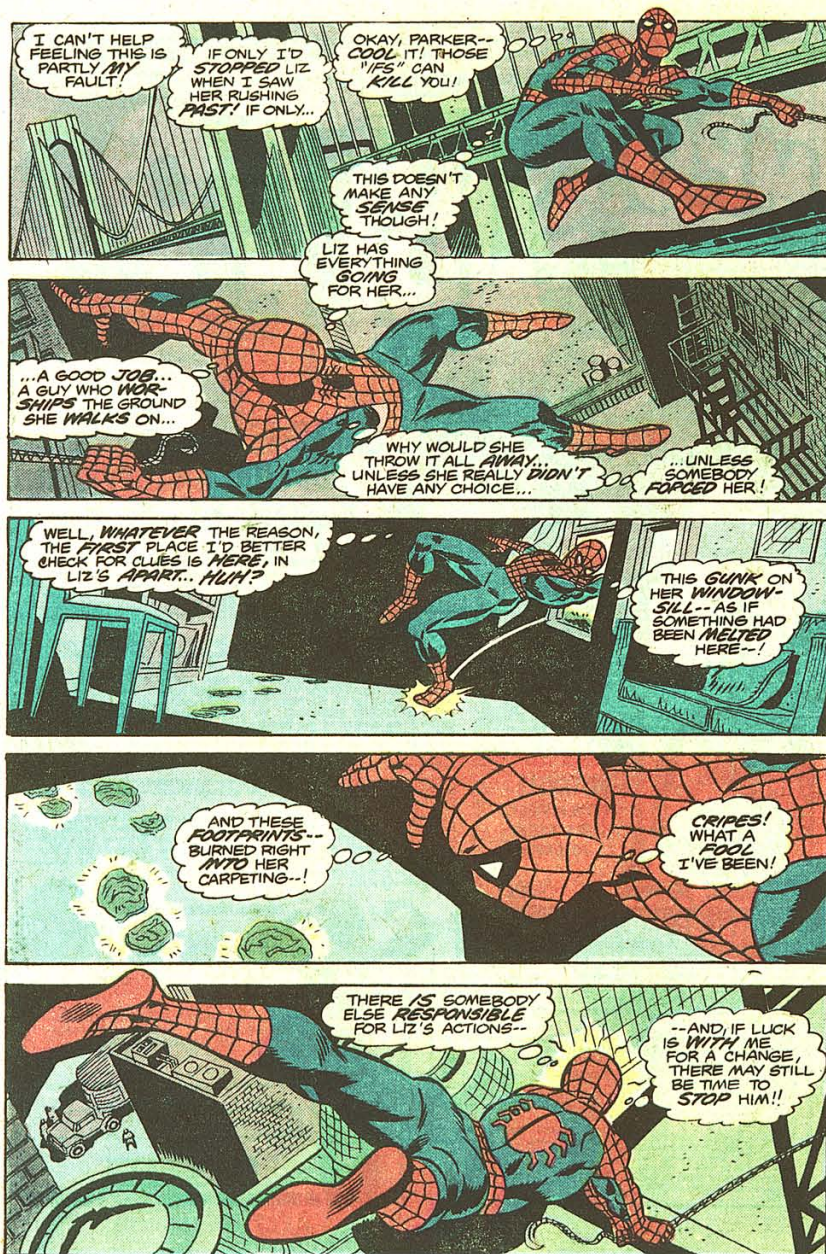
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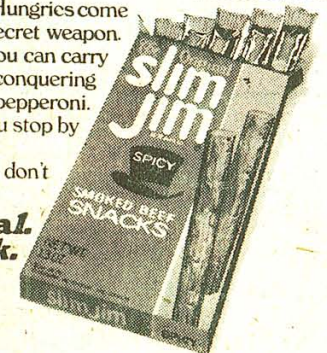
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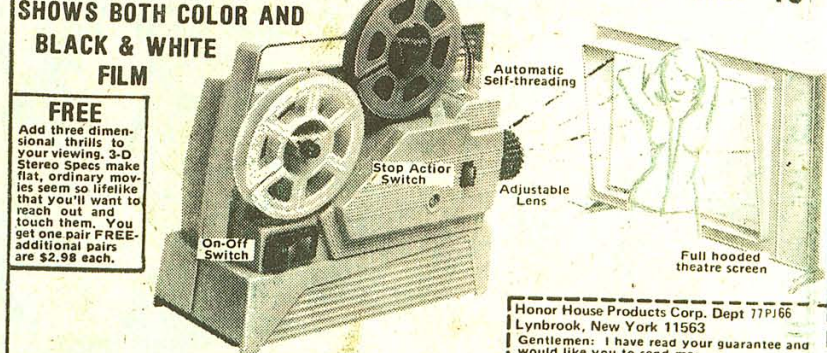
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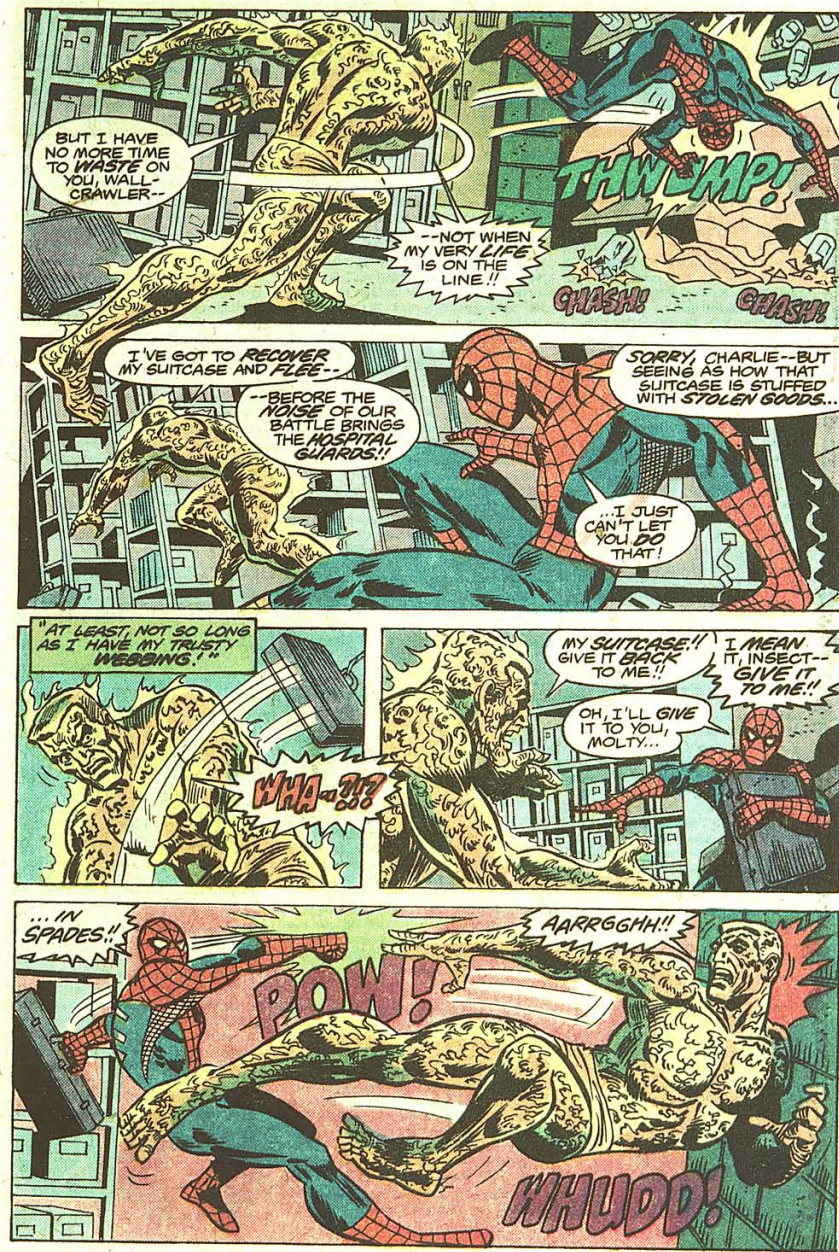
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# MARVEL BULLPEN BULLETINS

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## STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hi, gang! Before we get to the really heavy stuff, I just wanna say thanks to Gregg Marcus of the welcoming committee at the University of Alabama for arriving early enough at the hotel, after my lecture, to get me to the airport in time for the early flight back to New York. It was above and beyond the call of duty, Gregg, and thou mayest consider thyself summarily no-prized! Incidentally, for those of you who've never been to the U. of Alabama, I've got to tell you that the campus, and the tiny but terrific town of Tuscaloosa are really something else! I know, writing, editing, and publishing are great—but I think I enjoy visiting various colleges around the country more than anything else. I can't begin to describe the excitement of meeting Marvelites on campuses all over America (Canada and Mexico included) and being turned on by their awareness and enthusiasm! And speaking of enthusiasm, have I told you how thrilled I am to be able to announce that one of comicdom's greatest talents has rejoined the Bullpen after, lo, these many years? Yep, none other than the almost legendary Carmine Infantino, one of the acknowledged giants in the world of comics! Carmine Infantino, whose inspired artwork over the years has set the style for so many others who followed in his stead; whose contributions to the comic book industry are too numerous to mention in this one column; and whose extraordinary genius will knock your eyes out in SPIDER-WOMAN #1, on sale in July—as well as in issue #2 of THE HUMAN FLY, plus various issues of DAREDEVIL, NOVA, and other Marvel masterworks. Welcome aboard, old friend—the best is just ahead! But before I turn you loose, there's one other earth-shattering announcement I've been bustin' to make! Are you ready for this? Starting Monday, June 6th, HOWARD THE DUCK will burst forth like a meteor from the comic pages of newspapers from coast to coast! If he doesn't appear in your own town, write to the feature editor of your local newspaper and demand that such cultural deprivation be immediately rectified! First SPIDER-MAN—presently appearing in more than 300 lucky papers—and now, HOWARD THE DUCK! Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Magnificent Multifunction?! So, till the Silver Surfer gets a crew-cut, be good to each other. And, if you can spare a minute or two, take a turtle to sea!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! When comic book art aficionados get together, someone sooner or later points out the strong similarity between the visual techniques of comics and those of the movies. You'd certainly get no arguments from these quarters, as just about every sturdy soul in the Bullpen is a dyed-in-the-wool movie buff. Maybe that's why 1977 is shaping up as the year when merry Marvel and the wild world of the movies really come together. In addition to such continuing tie-in titles as STAR WARS, we're about to launch a number of bonus-size, one-issue film adaptations, timed to appear at the same time as the movies which they cover. The first one to come your way is based on American-International's THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU starring Burt Lancaster, Michael York, Richard Basehart, and Barbara Carrera. This eerie classic is from the book by H.G. Wells about an island empire populated by the half-human beings Dr. Moreau creates from wild animals. These *Humanimals*<sup>TM</sup> may well be the most sinister sensations to hit screen or comics pages since the movies (and Marvel) introduced everyone to the wonders of a certain world of talking apes. Certainly writer DOUG MOENCH and artist LARRY HAMA (Remember his standout stint as penciler on IRON FIST back in the old MARVEL PREMIERE days?) have given it one of their best jobs, the kind that has the whole Bullpen buzzing. But don't take our word for it, pick it up and see for yourself!

ITEM! As we said, ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU is only the beginning. Soon to follow will be our version of THE DEEP, the film of JAWS author Peter Benchley. A novel of sharks (A whole school, not just one!), deep sea treasure, and a giant eel. After that, we'll be tackling CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF A THIRD KIND, the movie about UFOs that we think is going to hit the seventies with the same kind of impact 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY struck the sixties. And these are just the projects we can tell you about. There are some others in the works too secret to mention for the moment, like the special photo-mag that has our whole black and white department huddling together mysteriously like spies in an IAN FLEMING book or—oops! Forget we said that! Just remember to watch this space for further developments.

ITEM! Word from the West Coast has it that JACK "King" KIRBY is hard at work developing an exciting new feature. No details yet from California's most constant innovator, but by this time next month, we hope to have the full scoop for you. Meanwhile, Mister Machine, the decidedly different super-hero Jack's introduced in his monthly 2001 book, has already started garnering rave reactions, with more than a few suggesting that this mechanical man with soul be given a book of his own. That's a matter better decided in the future, but you can still catch this hero-in-the-making if you move quickly right now.

ITEM! The parade of summer annuals is now moving into high gear, with the INVADERS, SPIDER-MAN, and HOWARD THE DUCK annuals all set for appearances this month, and THOR, THE ETERNALS, TARZAN, and JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS on tap for July. In addition to what we feel is some extra-special material designed for the main body of the books (such as Howard meeting the Man-Thing, and Thor teaming with the Guardians of the Galaxy), we'd like to call your attention to the short back-up features which are going into many of the annuals. These were designed to give our overworked regulars a few pages of breathing space, and, more importantly, to give some talented new writers, pencilers, and inkers a chance to display their work before the most discerning critics of all... you, our readers. Some of the contributors to these off-beat short adventures you may be slightly familiar with; many, however, will be strangers, exhibiting their work for the first time; some may become comics stars of tomorrow. Look at them carefully, let us know what you think. We're depending on you.

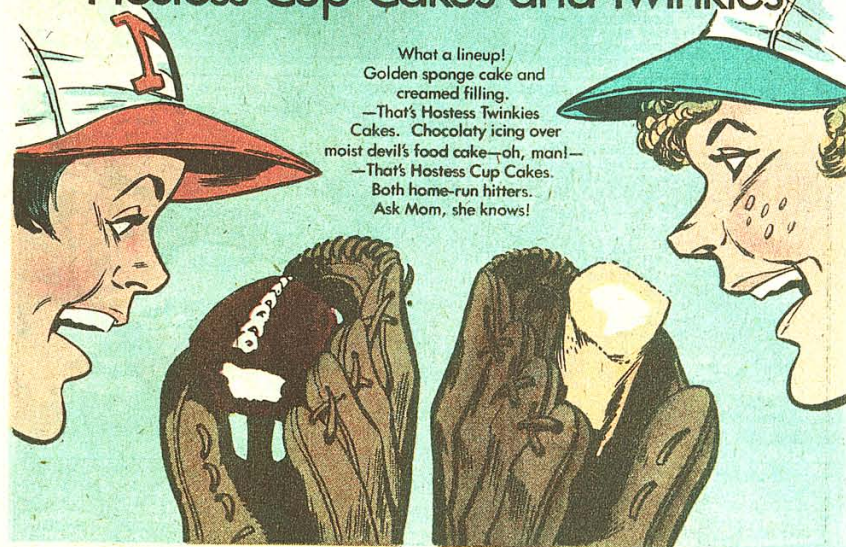


ITEM! With all the items we've already mentioned, you wouldn't think we'd have anything else special that we can lay on you this month, but we can't close without mentioning that this is the month that the premiere issue of THE HUMAN FLY, the real-life death-defier, hits the newsstands, and a new CONAN TREASURY EDITION comes your way, made up mostly of material that has never been seen in color comics and featuring the artistry of JOHN BUSCEMA, BARRY SMITH, NEAL ADAMS and GIL KANE, perfectly packaged by editor/writer ROY THOMAS. Let's face it, gang, like June, Marvel is busting out all over!



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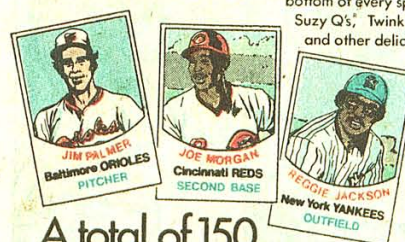
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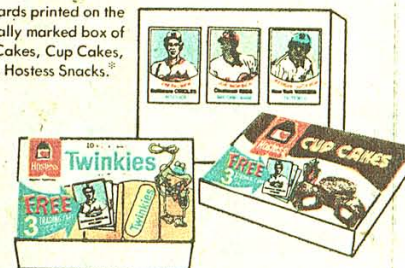
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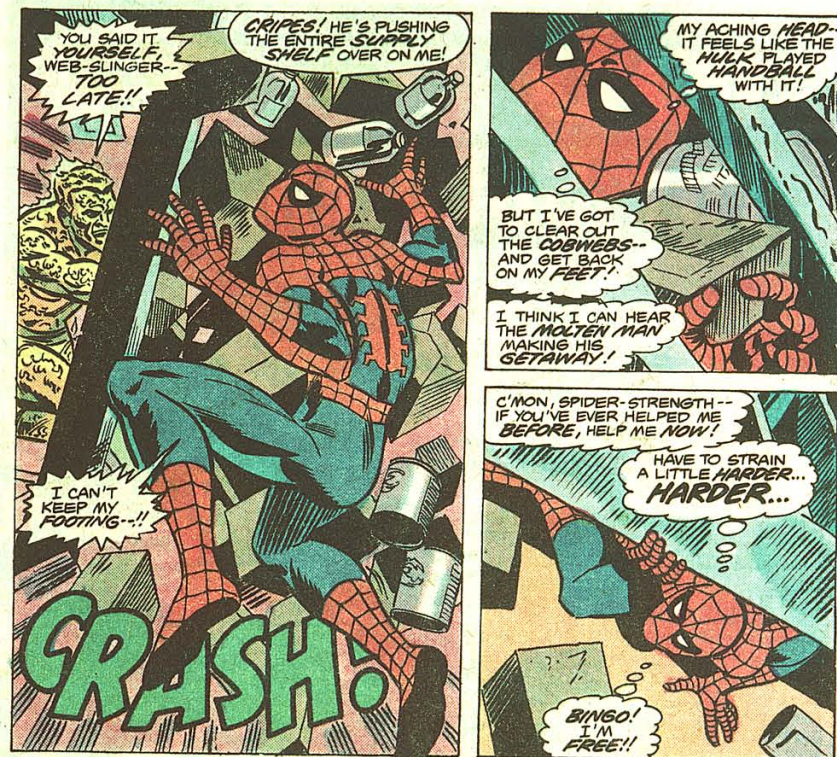
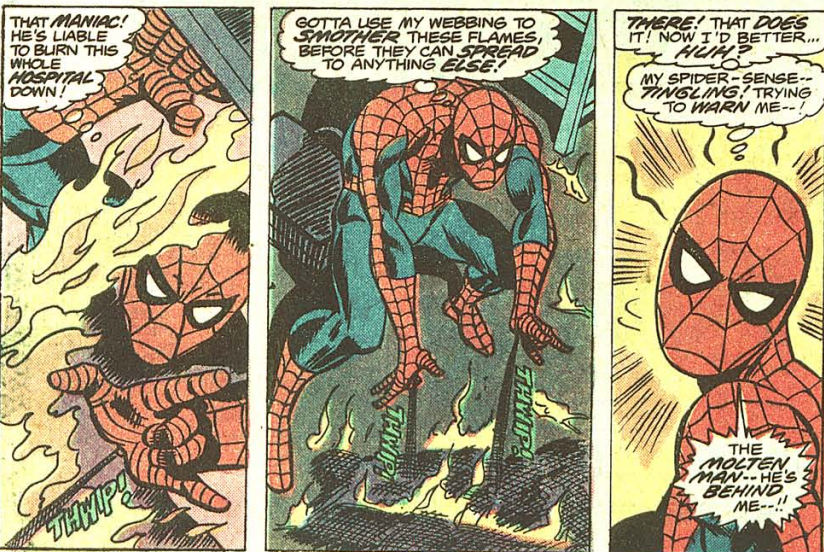
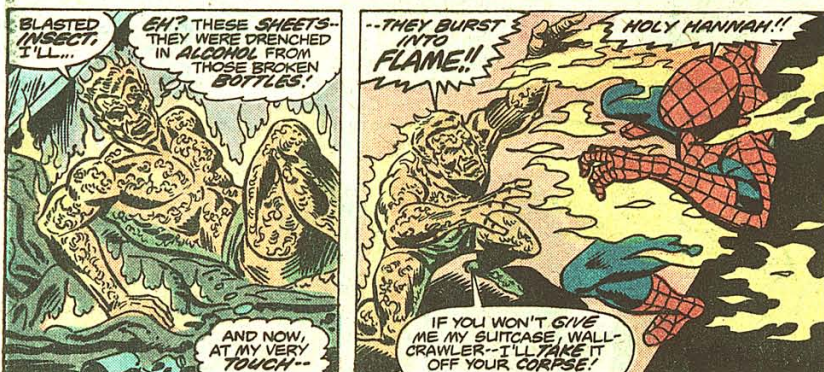
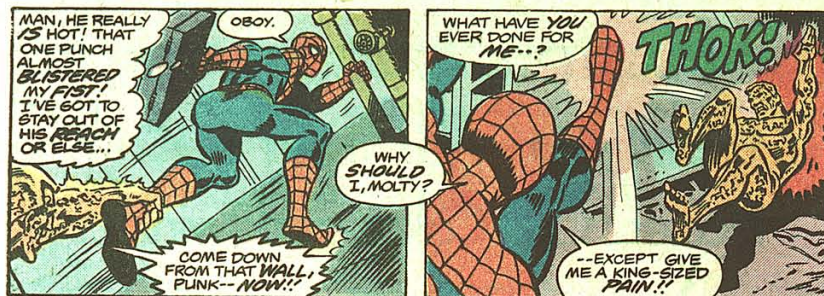
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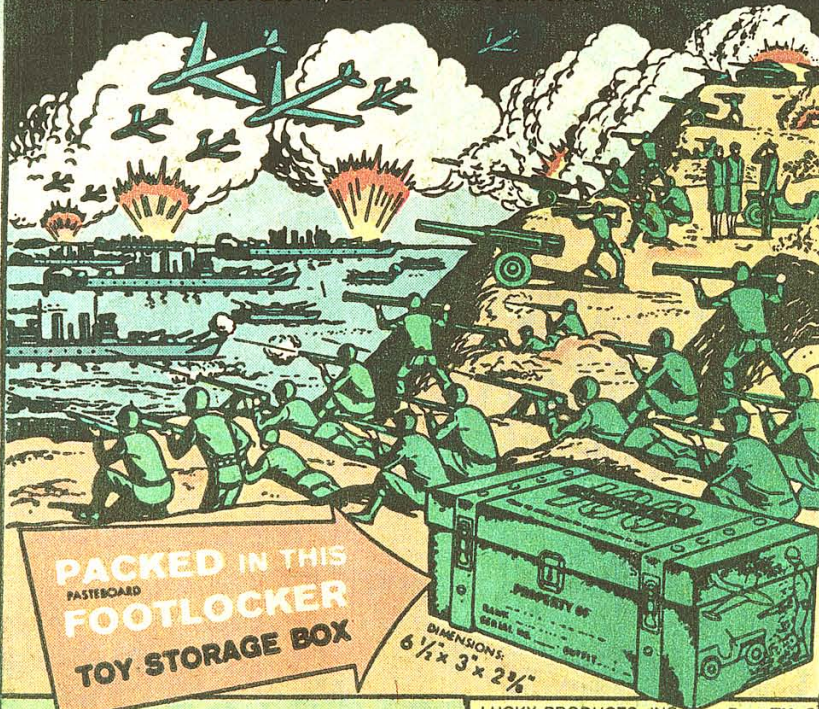




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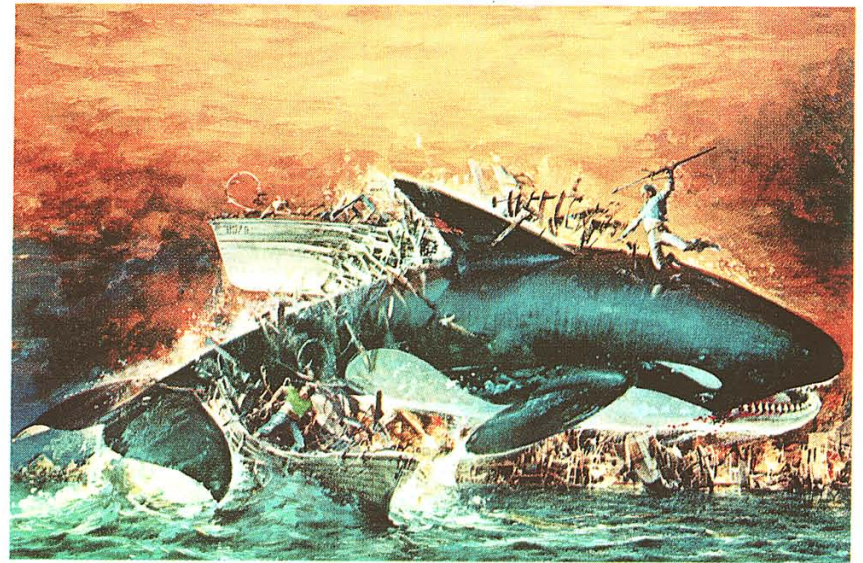
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